

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HUD-02 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-11 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02

FEAE-00 INT-05 CEA-01 EA-09 FRB-01 NEA-10 OPIC-06

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-10 DOTE-00

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P 211216Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 0186

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 01898

PASS: OES FOR GLASOE, EPA FOR THOMPSON, CEQ, COMMERCE,
HUD FOR BROUN

E.O. 1L652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE: NEW PROPOSALS FOR
1977 PROGRAM

REF: STATE 011657

1. SUMMARY. PERMDELS AND SECRETARIAT MET JAN 19 TO IDENTIFY AND DISCUSS MEMBER-COUNTRY PRIORITIES AMONG NEW PROPOSALS FOR 1977 PROGRAM. MEETING WAS CONSTRUCTIVE, AND SECRETARIAT NOW HAS REASONABLY CLEAR PICTURE OF 14-COUNTRY CONSENSUS ON HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRIORITIES. US PRIORITIES AND COMMENTS WERE PRESENTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTEL. DESCRIPTIVE CHART OF ALL MEMBER-COUNTRY PRIORITIES (HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW) HAS BEEN AIRPOUCHED TO DEPARTMENT (GLASOE, OES).

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2. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY PERMDELS FROM AUSTRALIA,

BELGIUM, DENMARK, FINLAND, GERMANY, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UK, US. PRIORITIES AND COMMENTS IN WRITING FROM CANADA, JAPAN, NEW ZEALAND. BELGIAN PERMDEL, (CHAIRMAN), WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS.

3. MISSION AIRPOUCHED JAN 19 TO DEPARTMENT (GLASOE, OES) A CHART SHOWING MEMBER-COUNTRY PRIORITIES FOR EACH PROJECT LISTED IN THE ANNEX TO THE SECRETARIAT'S LETTER ENV/D/76.2006, JAN. 7' TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF THE ANNEX. ON THIS LISTING, US HIGH PRIORITIES WERE NUMBERS: 2. (MEASURING THE EVOLUTION OF THE STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN MEMBER-COUNTRIES, AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURES); 9. (FEASIBILITY STUDY OF AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS OF ENERGY SYSTEMS. NOTE: THIS PROPOSAL WAS PRESENTED EXACTLY ACCORDING TO REFTEL, AND US POSITION WAS HIGHLY APPRECIATED); 10. (POLLUTION CONTROL COST STUDIES); 11. (CONTROL STRATEGIES FOR SOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CAUSED BY SO-2 EMISSIONS); 12. (APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA AND STANDARDS TO LAND-USE PLANNING).

4. HIGH PRIORITY VOTES FOR ABOVE LIST, IN SAME ORDER (INCLUDING US) WERE: EIGHT, SIX, SIX, SIX, THREE. THUS, ONLY THE US PROPOSAL ON CRITERIA FOR LAND-USE PLANNING FARED BADLY AMONG THE US SELECTION OF HIGH PRIORITIES, BUT EVEN THIS WAS RELATIVE, AS FIVE COUNTRIES GAVE THE PROJECT A "MEDIUM" VOTE. THE FEASIBILITY STUDY ON ENERGY RESIDUALS HAS EVIDENTLY AROUSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST (SIX "HIGH", INCLUDING THE US, AND FOUR "MEDIUM"), TEMPERED BY A DESIRE FOR MORE INFORMATION SUBSEQUENT TO THE DRAFTING OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE. (BOTH PROPOSALS - LAND-USE AND ENERGY RESIDUALS - WERE GIVEN A LOW PRIORITY BY THE UK ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY WERE APPLICABLE ONLY TO US SITUATIONS, BUT WITHOUT ANY BACK -UP RATIONALE).

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5. IN RESPONSE TO THE US COMMENTS ON THE SCANDINAVIAN PROPOSAL TO CONTROL SO-2 EMISSIONS, (REFTEL PARA 8), THE NORWEGIAN PERMDEL STATED HIS COUNTRY'S WISH THAT ACTION BE ACCELERATED, AND THAT PREPARATORY ORGANIZATIONAL WORK BE CARRIED OUT IN 1976. THIS IS LIKELY TO COME UP AT THE MARCH ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING.

6. NON-US "HIGHS" WERE: 1(AUTOMOBILES, AIR-POLLUTION AND EMISSION STANDARDS; SIX "HIGH", BUT AN EQUAL NUMBER OF "LOW"; 6 (ENVIRONMENTAL AND EMPLOYMENT POLICIES), FIVE "HIGH", BUT SIX "LOW". (THREE WAS THE MAXIMUM "LOW" VOTE ON US HIGH PRIORITIES, I.E. FOR PROJECT 12, LAND-USE). "MEDIUM" VOTES FOR THE AUTO-MOBILE AND EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS WERE THREE AND TWO RESPECTIVELY.

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7. CLEAR LOW PRIORITIES WERE: 7 (INTERNATIONAL RE-LOCATION OF INDUSTRY); 14 (IMPACT OF TOURISM ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT); 15 (METHODOLOGY FOR NATIONAL INVENTORIES OF POTENTIAL SOURCES OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION).
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